

THE PLOTTER

CLACKAMAS COUNTY AREA T/S
USERS GROUP
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 5

EDITED BY: Rod Gowen
CHAIRMAN: Rick Read
SEC/TREAS.: Rod Gowen
PR OFFICER: Bob Evans
LIBRARIAN: Laura Gowen

MEETINGS

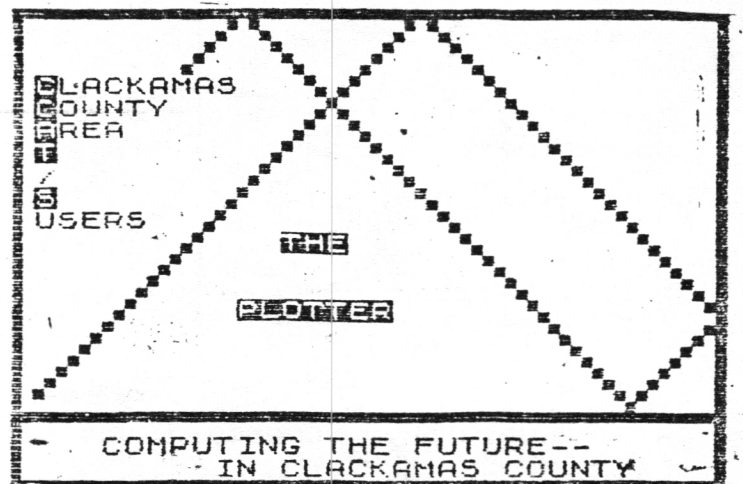
Our last meeting was held on Friday, April 13, 1984. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. The Sec/Treas. report was asked for and given. We then went on to old business. The first item was Advertising in the newsletter. After a bit of discussion, the group voted to accept PAID advertising in this publication on a limited basis. There was a proposal for the addition of two (2) new SYNTAX subscriptions as soon as we can set up new addressees. Proposed subscriptions to T/S Horizons and Sinclair Computing (from England) were tabled for further discussion at the next meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM. We then had a 30 minute question and answer session. At about 8:30 PM, we broke up to see what was brought by members to demonstrate.

Be sure and attend the next meeting. You never know what you might miss.

The next meeting will be held:

on: Friday, May 11, 1984
at: 7:00 P. M.
in: Room 101, Randall Hall
CCC

Be sure and attend. Bring a friend.>>>>>>*



BITS and BYTES

As we have had a limited amount of news come across our desk this month, we thought that you might like to read some good(?) news. (Reprinted from Basic Computer Newsletter)

WORRY NOT

ALTHOUGH IT IS NOW OBVIOUS THAT BOTH SYNC AND TIMEX SINCLAIR USER MAGAZINES HAVE STOPPED PUBLISHING, FEAR NOT.

MY RESEARCH HAS BROUGHT FORTH MANY POINTS OF INFORMATION. FOR ONE, AN ENORMOUS PHONE BILL. THE OTHERS HOWEVER, ARE OF MORE CONCERN TO OUR READERS.

PRIMARILY SPEAKING BASIC IS NOT THE ONLY INTERESTED PARTY IN SUPPORTING THE SINCLAIR FAMILY. SO AS TO FULLY EXPLAIN, ALLOW ME TO EXPAND THIS POINT TO THE MAX.

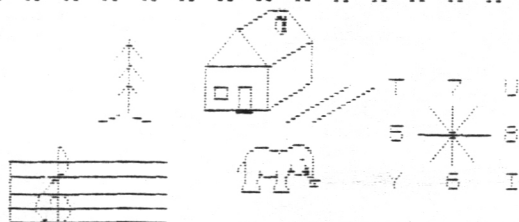
I HAVE JUST CONCLUDED A RATHER INFORMATIVE CONVERSATION WITH MR. DAVE HIGGINBOTTOM OF TRINITY MAGNUM, CALIFORNIA. DURING OUR CONVERSATION WE HAD EXCHANGED FACTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO ALL CONCERNED WITH WHAT THE FUTURE HAS IN STORE FOR THE SINCLAIR COMPUTER LINE. MY REASONS FOR BRINGING MR. HIGGINBOTTOM TO YOUR ATTENTION WILL SHORTLY UNFOLD.

HOWEVER, GETTING BACK TO SPECIFICS IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT DUE TO MARKETING "PROBLEMS" TIMEX HAS RECOGNIZED THAT IT MUST COMPLETELY SEVER ITS NAME FROM COMPUTERS. NEVERTHELESS, THIS BEING A PROVERBIAL PARADOX OF SITUATIONS IT DOES NOT MEAN THE END FOR THE SINCLAIR PRODIGY.

cont. >

1 *****

< - TRY THESE WITH YOUR 2068 <<



TO ILLUSTRATE, IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT TIMEX HOLDS THE PATENT AND MANUFACTURING RIGHTS IN THIS COUNTRY FOR THE "MINI-MARVEL" COMPUTERS. THIS BEING TRUE, ONE CAN EASILY COMPREHEND WHY TIMEX SHOULD NOT OBJECT TO CONTINUE MANUFACTURING COMPUTERS FOR AN UNRELATED PUBLIC COMPANY THAT IS FINANCIALLY STABLE AND AGREEABLE TO MARKET UNDER ITS OWN NAME.

NOW THIS IS WHERE MR. DAVE HIGGENBOTTOM AND MYSELF BECAME AQUAINTED. CONSIDERING BRINGING A GROUP OF INVESTORS TOGETHER FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED I DISCOVERED THAT DAVE HAD ALREADY PIONEERED THE CAUSE. AND IF I MAY SAY SO, AFTER SPEAKING WITH THE GENTLEMAN, IN MY OPINION, HE IS PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED TO CONVEY THE NECESSARY INGREDIENTS.

INCIDENTALLY, MR. HIGGENBOTTOMS PHONE NO. IS (213) 864-7068. IM SURE HE WOULD NOT MIND RECEIVING CALLS FROM INTERESTED CONTRIBUTING PARTIES.

CONSEQUENTLY, WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HAVE TO OFFER? BE PREPARED FOR A NEW LINE OF 1000'S, 1500'S, SPECTRUM 2068 AND THE QL "ULTIMATE COMPUTER" SOON TO BE ON THE SHELVES OF LOCAL RETAIL OUTLETS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

IN CONCLUSION, BASIC COMPUTER PROGRAMS WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE YOU THE SOFTWARE SUPPORT THAT YOU NEED.

IF YOU ENJOY OUR PUBLICATION WHY NOT TAKE A MOMENT TO WRITE A FEW LINES AND SEND THEM TO MY ATTENTION. I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING FROM YOU.

YOURS FOR BETTER BASIC,

RONALD W. DESIND

DEAR READERS,

PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING LETTER SENT IN BY MR. BANEY.

JOHN, YOUR SUGGESTIONS ARE EXCELLENT. MY ONLY HOPE IS TO SEE A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM OTHERS...

for
to Computer Newsletter
amson & Butter Building
Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida 33137

Ed,

Just a few suggestions on what articles I would like to in your newsletter.

It seems I live in a very remote area with not many TSers around to confer with and I have had to work out all my programming problems without any help.

I believe a short exchange column with inputs from your readers would be great. Maybe small routines that would be useful to others in writing programs. Here is an example of a routine that I worked out for some of my programs to line columns of numbers neatly.

10 Print "Input Any Number"
20 Input A
30 Print Tab 26-LEN STR\$ A;A
40 GOTO 20

Input any integer number.

Also in the exchange column it would be nice to hear about experiences that other users have had with hardware software. My best experience is with my purchase of the Santronic Keyboard. I received it within eight days from order and it only took me about half an hour to hook-up (20 minutes to find a screwdriver). It has made entering programs so easy that I don't mind typing long ones in now.

Keep up the good work and I wish you the best for the future.

Respectfully,

John P. Baney

* LETS PARTICIPATE FOLKS *

SEND TO:

READER EXCHANGE
BASIC COMPUTER PROGRAMS
3705 BISCAYNE BOULEVARD
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33137

HARDWARE REVIEW

=====

BYTE-BACK

MODEM

by

Rod Gowen

ITEM: Byte-Back Modems (2 models)
PRICE: \$149.95+shipping
Discounts Avail.
FROM: RMG Enterprises
655-7484
MEMORY: 2K or more

After waiting for the T/S Modem for a long while, I was really disappointed when Timex quit at the very time when the modem was to be released. I then turned to Byte-Back to get a modem. They have been available for some time as the Model MD-2. They now have 2 models available, the new improved MD-2B and the MD-68 for the 2068 computer. They come two ways, wired and tested or as a kit. You can save about \$20 if you are handy and enjoy working on kits. The modems all come with ZOOMM, the software to run the operation of the unit. There is also a "Smart" Software package available as an option. The unit also has an RS232 port inside that will allow you to use many serial peripherals. As it comes, it is compatible with the Timex and most Parallel printers. The new models can answer or originate transmissions.

I hooked up my MD-2B to my ZX81 computer and started to try to get online with CompuServe. The first and by far the most important thing to do is to READ THE MANUALS. Having done so, I had very few problems with the unit.

The unit's software is menu driven, as are all of the services that you might hook up to. That makes things a lot simpler. With the Modem you will receive a CompuServe Demo Pack, which will get you online and let you become familiar with the operations of your Modem. There are also about 8 or 10 local Bulletin Boards or BBS in the Portland area that you can get on and read ads, news, letters and even the top ten video games or records and albums (KGON BBS). It is fun and interesting. In fact, it can become addictive. It almost made this newsletter late.

The menu allows you to send or receive text or programs, store text as REM statements and then to copy it, save it or send it to another computer. Very thorough and user friendly program.

I can recommend this unit VERY highly. I am going to try the "Smart" software. I may report on that at a later date.

TRY ONE--you'll like it!!!

Use the POWER
within your reach!



ZX/TS
P and R

=====

Here is a small routine for you to type into your 2068. After it is in, run it and then explain it.

(Make sure that the printer is on.)

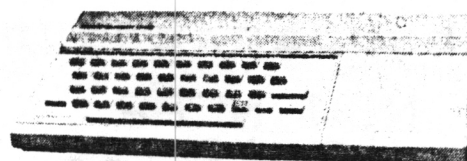
```
10 PRINT #1;"lower";#2;"upper"  
  #3;" PRESS ENTER";#4;"P"  
AUX 0  
20 FOR k=1 TO 10  
30 PRINT k; NEXT k
```

This time our 1000 program comes to us all the way from North Dakota. From Tad Hendrickson, 14 years old. I have been sending a newsletter since I gave him a computer for Christmas. After a couple of months he sent in this program. Not bad for his age and the time on the unit AND with no one to advise or help.

```
1 REM "CHASE"  
10 CLS  
15 LET N=0  
20 LET A=15  
25 LET B=15  
30 LET C=0  
35 LET D=INT (RND*30)+1  
40 LET D=INT (RND*20)+1  
45 LET B$=INKEY$  
50 PRINT AT A,B; CHR$ 133  
55 PRINT AT D,C; CHR$ 6  
60 LET N=N+1  
65 IF N=500 THEN GOTO 200  
70 PRINT AT A,B;" "  
75 IF B$="5" THEN LET B=B-1  
80 IF B$="3" THEN LET B=B+1  
85 IF B$="6" THEN LET A=A+1  
90 IF B$="7" THEN LET A=A-1  
95 IF B$="0" AND A=D AND B=C  
THEN GOTO 500  
97 IF B$="0" THEN PRINT AT D,  
C;"X"  
100 PRINT AT D,C;" "  
105 IF C=30 THEN GOTO 35  
110 LET C=C+1  
115 GOTO 45  
200 PRINT AT 10,14;"SCORE IS="  
";S  
210 STOP  
500 S=S+1  
510 PRINT AT D,C;"X"  
520 PRINT AT D,C;" "  
530 GOTO 35
```

Use the arrow keys to move.

The object of the game is to score by having your guy (chr\$ 6) and the computer (chr\$ 133) be at the same place so that they are one on top of the other and press 0 to fire. Movements are done with 5, 6, 7, 8, the arrows above tell which directions you move. There is a time limit on it and when the time is up it will show you your score.



2068

Our 2068 program comes again from Roger Valentine's book, The Timex Sinclair 2068. It is quite short, but it shows how to use the OVER command.

If you want to create an odd shaped character for some reason there is a very easy way to do so without all that USR CHR\$ 144 business. Just use the EXCLUSIVE OR aspect of the expression OVER 1 to print one character on top another, obliterating all points where the two characters meet.

DIFFERENTIAL

[illegible]

54

TITLE: LEARNING TIMEX/SINCLAIR
BASIC
AUTHOR: David A. Lien
PRICE: 2

This one is the best I've found. It is great for the very beginner, as it is written in simple language and even has some humor. It tells you how to SAVE a program on tape and how to LOAD it.

[illegible]

NO. 1111 1111 1111

For 2068 users who suffer hearing loss and find the "clicks" of the keyboard inadequate, the POKE 20689,100. If you don't want loud sounds, POKE 20689,0.

[illegible]

REFERENCES

Figure 1 illustrates the construction of a 16-bit shift register. The diagrams show the state of the register at each step, with the state of the cells changing as the shift register is updated. The final state of the register is shown in the last diagram, where the cells contain the numbers 1 through 16.

54

```

TITLE:          TIMEGATE
FROM:           QUICKSILVA
MEMORY:         48K (00068)
COST:           $24.00

```

When I received this piece of software in the mail I knew that if they put out a program as good as the package that it came in, I was in for a real treat. Well, they didn't let me down.

This is one of the finest games that I have seen in a long while. I was, as I said, very impressed with the plastic book-type container (printed in full color) and the card inside. When I watched the program loading, I was again impressed with the graphics. The first side of the tape loads the instruction manual, and when you are finished with them, the program tells you to turn the tape over and load the main game.

Once the program is running, the three-dimensional space effects as well as the sound effects make you feel as though you are really in a space ship and are making "jumps" through time and space. The computer produces a throbbing, rumbling effect that vibrates the table. You can almost "feel" the ship moving. Couple that with the stars rushing toward you on the view-screen and you have some super game playing ahead. It will work with the keyboard or with a joystick. Time to play? That depends on how good you are at eluding the "SQUARM".

After this one I can hardly wait to try more of this superior software. It comes from QUICK-SILVER, The Game Lords Of Britain who make software for the 1000 and the 2000. Lets support any and all suppliers who can put out quality and reasonably priced merchandise. We need more of them, don't you think?



T/S HELPLINE

WE'RE BACK!!

As promised. We certainly hope that you missed us.

We have not received many calls on the HELPLINE, but then again, we hope that the lack of calls means that all of you are doing just fine and do not need any help. I really hope that it is not a general lack of interest in the newsletter as a whole. That would be TERRIBLE. I can think of no faster way to kill a newsletter, newspaper or group than to have it become infected with that dreaded disease,

APATHY.

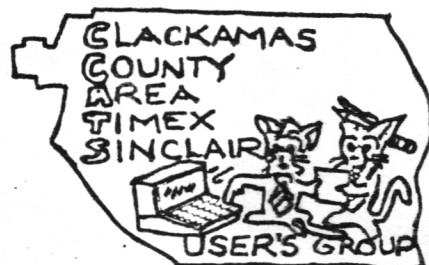
Had a couple of people ask how to make 2068 programs that start as soon as they are loaded. The answer to that one is simple, but bears repeating. Simply add this line to your program:

```
9999 SAVE "program name" LINE 0
```

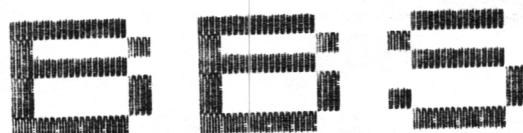
As simple as it may sound, some have had trouble BREAKING an autorun BASIC program on the 2068. On this machine you must remember to press both the BREAK and the CAPS SHIFT at the same time. That will usually do the job unless the program is using a protect routine.

ANY PROBLEMS? QUESTIONS?
Desires?

Just ask, WE WANT TO HELP!!!!



CCAT/S



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=====

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1419 1/2 7th STREET
OREGON CITY, OR 97045

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK-

Well, another month has gone by and we don't know where it went. We received a lot of nice remarks regarding our new format. We hope the rest of our readers like it also.

As you can see by the reprinted article from BASIC COMPUTER PROGRAMS, there seems to be a few good people out there who DO care what happens to a well designed and quality built piece of equipment. I'm talking about our friendly TIMEX COMPUTERS. I, for one, sincerely hope that Mr Higginbottom gets all the support that he needs. As the writer says, we all need to get our pens, typewriters or wordprocessors out and let people know where you stand. If we, as a group, can make our collective voices heard, we CAN get things that we need and want.

What do you say? Lets all write. And continue to do so until we are sure that we have been heard. Make sure our voice is heard.

TILL NEXT TIME THEN--

KEEP ON

PEEKing and POKEing>>>>***

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Let people know what you have or need!

[illegible]

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JUST WATCH US GROW!! We have been growing by about 8% per year. ~~seem this growth slowing.~~ We will be printing an up to date membership list to be sent out with our JUNE newsletter. WATCH FOR IT AND WATCH US GROW!!!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

SECRET

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Oregon City, OR 97045



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